

***TOWN OF NEWFIELDS BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, APRIL 7, 2009***

Present: Selectmen: Michael Woodworth, Rosanne Gilbert, and Wes Moore. Others present included: Sue McKinnon, Natalie Fream, Win Fream, Kelley Corson, Chief Reed, Mary August, Chip Littlefield, Lawrence Crampsey, Mark Goodrich, Kristin Silverstein, Perry Silverstein, Coco Silverstein, Ted Wingate, Kristi Pawlak, Peter Attenborough, John Garrity, Laurie Frysalis, Lorrie Maker, Ken Maker, Paul Watson, Scott Therrien, Peter McNulty, Rich Gilbert, Lewis Bond, and Nancy Spencer.

Call to order: 6:36pm by Chairman Michael Woodworth.

Sue advised that four properties have a deed date of May 18th which means that the properties will be deeded over to the Town if the taxes have not been paid. She believes that one mortgagee will pay the back taxes and one resident will pay the back taxes. The other two properties may not pay their taxes and thus be deeded over to the Town. The Town received a letter from the attorney for the mortgage holder of one of those asking that alternatives be explored before the deed date.

Wes made a motion to deny an extension of the due date to pay the outstanding taxes on the above properties. Rosanne seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

Checks were signed.

A letter to the New Hampshire Department of Transportation asking for a crosswalk on Main Street between the library and the old post office building was signed.

A Town Hall Rental Agreement was approved.

Three Abatements and three Abatement Denial Letters were signed.

A while ago Jack Shaw made repairs to the railing at the old post office building. Jack did not charge the Town for his work. The Selectmen did approve payment to Jack for the cost of the acetylene that was needed.

Sue gave a copy of a Cash Receipts Policy to the Selectmen. She asked that they review the policy and approve it at a future meeting. The Town does not have a policy at this time and the auditors suggested that one be put into effect.

Sue asked the Selectmen to appoint Maureen Smith as Deputy Town Clerk with a yearly stipend of \$500. to be paid in December.

Rosanne made a motion to appoint Maureen Smith as Deputy Town Clerk. Wes Moore seconded the motion and the motion passed with all in favor.

Kelley Corson, Natalie Fream, and Win Fream met with the Selectmen to discuss Main Street Art. The new proposed lease needs to be reviewed by the Town Counsel, plans for the building need to be approved by the Planning Board and possibly the Zoning Board of Adjustment. Although the group has been on the Agenda for the Planning Board, a formal application has not been submitted. This must be done before the formal process can begin.

Nancy was asked to contact Primex to advise them the pipes have been cut at the old post office building and the water cannot be turned on.

Win has permission to do a burn behind the old post office building to clean up the area. He must call the Fire Department for a burn permit.

Nancy was asked to order 100 recycle bins. Thank you to Tom Bassett who gave the Town Office the company name and contact for the bins. Town residents will be charged \$15.00 per bin.

The Selectmen would like to meet with the Zoning Board of Adjustment on May 5th. Nancy will contact Mary August, Chair of the ZBA to extend the invitation.

The Selectmen's meeting moved to the Town Hall to accommodate the number of Halls Mill Road residents attending. Copies of a letter from the town prosecutor were handed out to the residents stating that "the Newfields Town Ordinance is not enforceable". Michael Woodworth stated that he asked Chief Reed to remove the police ordinance from the Town's website.

This is now a civil matter and the Town has retained Attorney John Ryan to research to see if there is any relief for the residents disturbed by the gunfire in the area. The research may take several weeks to complete.

Noise and safety issues were discussed. When the Selectmen have more information, they will make it available to the public.

This portion of the meeting ended and the Selectmen returned to their office downstairs.

Chief Reed offered to negotiate a "gentlemen's agreement" as most of the Halls Mill Road residents are willing to work on a process for a reasonable resolution. He was asked to wait until we receive legal advice from Attorney Ryan.

The Chief also let the Selectmen know that he is working with the two churches in town to deliver food baskets for Easter.

The Police Department will hold their annual roadside clean-up on Routes 85 and 87 on April 25th. They are partnering with the Newfields Garden Club who will receive hundreds of daffodil bulbs this fall to plant around town.

The Board of Selectmen expresses their condolences to the family and friends of Bill Dawson on his passing.

Payments to various health and human services were approved. The checks will be issued in two weeks.

Correspondence from Comcast was reviewed.

The Government Finance Officers Seminar information was reviewed. The Treasurer will not attend this year.

Information on the Clean Air Cool Planet conference was reviewed and will be given to the Planning Board and Conservation Commission.

The Impact Fee Methodology was reviewed. Larry Shaw, Building Inspector, will be notified of the fee increase on new single family residences.

A personnel issue was discussed in a non-public session.

Wes made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 31, 2009 meeting as amended. Rosanne seconded the motion and the motion passed with all in favor.

Wes would like to draft a letter to the Governor of New Hampshire asking him to cut his budget and not cut any funding to the towns of the state. Michael and Rosanne agreed that Wes should draft the letter for all to sign.

Wes made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:35pm. Rosanne seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy J. Spencer
Administrative Assistant

